



# Parma Woods

## Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

Summer 2007

### *Robbie Garver's* **Camping Basics**

The outdoors is full of fun, adventure, and danger. Those are a few of the things that I have picked up on over the years. I'm Robbie Garver, the new Range Assistant here at Parma Woods. I was born in Osceola, Missouri, and I am finishing up a degree in outdoor recreation at Northwest Missouri State University. I grew up hunting, fishing, and camping. One of my career goals is to promote the outdoors and the affiliated traditions, so that the children of tomorrow will be able to enjoy the same resources that we have today. Everyone needs some type of recreation or leisure in their lives, especially at young ages. This is important so folks can learn leadership and communication skills by working in groups, and also learn how to have fun. I hope to contribute to society by helping to promote outdoor recreation.

One of my favorite things to do is camping! This outdoor activity is fun for all ages, if you are prepared for it. There are many things that you need to do before you even think about hitting the trail. Where will you go? How long will you be gone? How will you get there?

Some trips are simple. Every kid should get the chance to go camping in the great outdoors right in their own back yard. Mom or Dad might get frustrated trying to help them set up the tent, but then the kids are out of the house. If the weather threatens

or a friend tells a scary story, kids always have the option to retreat to the safety of their homes.

Then there are trips that require more planning. First, you need to decide how many meals must be prepared. Then, what dishes and other gear are needed for cooking. Then you have to pack clothes. What happens if you get wet? You better have some extras. What other things might you need? If you are driving straight to the campsite, you can bring all kinds of equipment. But if you have to hike in, you will have to plan carefully for a load that you can carry on your back. One thing is water, lots of water. Trust me, if someone gets dehydrated, it will ruin a whole campout in a hurry. You will also need to bring a first aid kit, just in case. There always seems to be someone in every bunch that is a master at tripping over his own shadow.

Once you have all your gear lined up, then you need a plan. What are you going to do during the camping trip? Probably not just sit in the tent, right! Make up a schedule to fill the time with fun activities like hiking, fishing, and exploring nature. Some people get stressed out when doing things like camping, especially if they haven't done it before. But if you plan it out right, there should be nothing to worry about. A good camping trip should be relaxing as you enjoy the outdoors.



# Summer Events Calendar

All classes are free unless otherwise noted. All equipment is provided free by the Missouri Department of Conservation. You must pre-register by calling 816-891-9941.

## July

### Range Closed - State Holiday - July 4

#### .22 Plinking

Experience the excitement of shooting interactive targets.

**July 7** (Sat.), 8-10 am

#### Hunter Education Class

Receive your Hunter Ed. certification in this 3-night class. Must be 11 years or older.

**July 10-12** (Tues.-Thurs.), 5:30-9 pm

#### Hunter Education Class

Receive your Hunter Ed. certification in this 1-day class. Must be 11 years or older. Pre-register by calling 816/655-6250.

**July 14** (Sat.), 8 am-6 pm

#### Introduction to Fly Fishing

Learn the basics to get started in fly fishing including equipment and casting.

**July 15** (Sun.), 1-5 pm

#### Intermediate Reloading

Learn some more advanced information on metallic cartridge reloading. This is a great class for beginners with basic knowledge.

**July 18, 19 and August 1, 2** 6:30-9 pm

#### Youth Air Rifle

Get the kids started right. They will learn the basics of rifle marksmanship in a safe environment.

**July 21** (Sat.), 8-10 am

#### Backpacking and Camping

Learn the basics of backpacking from experienced instructors.

**July 25** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

#### Map and Compass

Learn how to use these tools so that you never get lost again.

**July 26** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

#### Wilderness Survival

Could you make it out alive? Learn how to survive in the outdoors.

**July 27** (Fri.), 6-8 pm

#### Catfishing Seminar

Learn all about these giant Missouri fish. This class will cover equipment and tips to help you put a bend in your fishing rod.

**July 28** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

## August

#### Intermediate Reloading

**August 1, 2** (see July 18)

#### How to Use a G.P.S.

Learn from knowledgeable instructors how to make these tools work for you.

**August 4** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

#### Intro to Rifle Shooting

Learn shooting basics using .22 rim-fire rifles.

**August 8** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

#### .22 Plinking

Experience the excitement of shooting interactive targets.

**August 9** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

#### Basic Archery

Learn the 11 steps to archery success.

**August 11** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

#### Intro to Fishing

Learn basic skills to get started fishing.

**August 12** (Sun.), 1-4 pm

#### Bowhunter Education Class

Become certified in bowhunter education. This course is required by several states for non-resident hunters, as well as for some managed hunts.

**August 14/15** (Tues./Wed.), 5:30-9:30 pm

#### Women's Handgun Class

Learn handgun shooting basics in this 2-part course. Includes live firing.

**August 16** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

**August 18** (Sat.), 8-10 am

#### Cable Restraint Class

Become certified to use cable restraints for trapping. Required for those wanting to purchase a cable restraint trapping permit.

**August 18** (Sat.), 10 am-4 pm

#### Intro to Muzzleloaders

Learn the basics to get started shooting these smokepoles in this 2-part course.

**August 21/22** (Tues./Weds.), 6-8 pm

#### Hunter Education Class

Receive your Hunter Ed. certification in this 1-day class. Must be 11 years or older. Pre-register by calling 816/655-6250.

**August 25** (Sat.), 8 am-6 pm

#### Dove Hunting Clinic

Discover the exciting sport of dove hunting in this 3-night course, including equipment, techniques, and shooting.

**August 29-31** (Weds.-Fri.), 6-8 pm

## September

### Range Closed - State Holiday - Sept. 3

#### Hunter Education Class

Receive your Hunter Ed. certification in this 3-night class. Must be 11 years or older.

**Sept. 4-6** (Tues.-Thurs.), 5:30-9 pm

#### Bowhunting for Beginners

Learn how to get started in bowhunting. Includes all aspects of bowhunting including shooting.

**Sept. 8** (Sat.), 9 am-4 pm

#### Scouting for Deer

Learn how to scout hunting areas to find that special wall hanger.

**Sept. 12** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

#### Tracking Wounded Game

A must course for bowhunters and others who want to improve their outdoor skills.

**Sept. 13** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

#### N.R.A. Turkey Hunting Clinic

Become a N.R.A. certified turkey hunter. Learn about turkey biology, hunting tips, tactics, and more.

**Sept. 15** (Sat.), 8 am-6 pm

#### Crappie Fishing

Learn how to increase the chances of catching more papermouths.

**Sept. 19** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

#### National Hunting and Fishing Day

Join us as we celebrate this special day with exhibits and free shooting.

**Sept. 22** (Sat.), 10 am-4 pm

### Intro to Rifle Shooting

Learn shooting basics using .22 rim-fire rifles.

**Sept. 26** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Intermediate Rifle Marksmanship

For anyone having problems with their rifle shooting skills. Our staff will help you become better shooters.

**Sept. 27** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Youth Squirrel Hunt

Open to ages 11-15. Must be Hunter Ed. certified prior to hunt, have an adult sponsor, and attend 3-hour orientation.

**Orientation - Sept. 28** (Fri.), 6-9 pm

**Hunt - Sept. 29** (Sat.), 6-11 am

# Summer Range Hours

**Friday-Sunday, 10 am-4 pm**

**Monday-Tuesday, 2-8 pm**

**The range is closed Wednesdays, Thursdays,  
and state holidays.**

# Range Rules to Remember

*by Russell Atchley*



## *Uncasing Firearms at the Range*

One mistake that first timers to the range often make is that they do not uncasing their firearms properly. To avoid the hassle of dealing with unhappy range staff, please follow these steps:

1. Be sure to do all casing and uncasing of firearms inside the booth, not on the benches behind the booth.
2. Place your cased firearms on top of the shooting table oriented so that the muzzle is pointing down range.
3. Open your case.
4. One at a time, remove ONLY the firearms that are pointing down range.
5. Lock open the actions, remove the magazines, engage the mechanical safeties, and place the firearms in the appropriate rack with the muzzle pointed up. If you have a firearm that does not lock open, place a chamber flag in it to show clear.
6. If your case contains firearms that are not oriented down range, close your case and rotate, so that they do. Then repeat steps 3-5.
7. Continue until the case is empty, or the rack is full.



# 10 Summer Activities for Deer Hunting Success

by Jason Waterbury

There are many things that need to be taken into consideration before you go out hunting. Most hunters are aware of what needs to be done, but seldom make time to get them done. It is a common fall scene at the range. Somebody shows up after pulling their rifle out of the closet a week before the season. They fire a couple of rounds, and are utterly amazed at the results. Their bullets don't strike the intended mark! They search their memory trying to figure out why the sights are off and end up pulling their hair out, because they just don't have enough time to get back on target. These folks often give up and sometimes go to the field not knowing whether they will hit their mark. This is not the way a responsible sportsman should act. Follow these 10 steps to deer season success.

**1. Practice shooting** now to make sure that both you and your rifle are performing up to par. Practicing can take a lot of worries out of your mind at the moment of truth, putting an end to the dreaded "Buck Fever."

**2. Scout** the areas you plan to hunt in the fall. Get out on the land and learn about the terrain, what food sources are available in the fall, and where deer may be traveling. Though some things may change, it will not hurt you to learn more about the area.

**3. Set up scouting cameras** to learn where animals can be found on the areas you plan to hunt. You can learn a lot about what time and where animals travel, as well as where the 'Big One' hangs out.

**4. Plant food plots** to make sure that you provide the nutrition that deer need to develop properly.

**5. Keep equipment in safe working order.** Keep firearms clean and well maintained to make sure they won't fail you in the moment of truth.

**6. Read some articles** on deer hunting. You can get something out of just about any article. Put these pieces together, and you will be well rewarded for your efforts.

**7. Hit the books** to learn what you can about the animals themselves. This will make you a much better hunter.

**8. Plan your hunts** to ensure that you have all the details covered. This will keep your deer season stress level down and your fun level up.

**9. Review lessons** learned in previous hunts so you don't make the same mistakes twice. It is always a good idea to keep a journal of all hunting experiences. Include dates, locations, weather conditions, and any other important information.

**10. Practice, practice, and practice shooting** some more.

Check out the latest Parma Woods news at: [www.missouriconservation.org/2338](http://www.missouriconservation.org/2338)



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